Scheme relating to Gujarat under Eighth Five Year Plan

2246. SHRI ANATRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 422 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd February, 1994 and state:

(a) what are the names of the schemes of his Ministry which are to be started in the State of Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) whether the schemes for Gujarat have been approved on the basis of area and population and if not, on what basis these schemes have been formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The following schemes are proposed to be started in the State of Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan :—

(i) Construction of Eighth general cargo berth at Kandla Port.

(ii) Development of Waterway between Bhadbhut and Baharuch in the river Narmada.

(iii) Twenty six schemes relating to reconstruction of major/minor bridges, construction of bye passes, widening of roads etc.

(b) The schemes are formulated on the basis of actual requirement, interse priority of works and overall availability of funds etc.

Development of highways

2247. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the press news-item which appeared in 'Statesman' dated 4th July, 1994 under the caption "Poor Planning hits road projects";

(b) if so, whether due to faulty planning a large number of road projects have been badly affected;

(c) whether the growth of vehicles are increasing and the development of Highways is declining; and

(d) if so, the immediate corrective steps now Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Government is aware of the position indicated in the news item in question.

(b) to (d) There has been gro of vehicle population on the National Highways, but due to resource crunch, it has not been possible to develop the National Highways to the desired level. However, efforts are made to keep the National Highways in traffic worthy condition within the available funds. In order to augment the budgetary sources, it is proposed to involve the Private Sector participation also in the construction, maintenance and operation of fee-based facilities on National Highways on BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) basis.

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की घोषणा में विलम्ब के लिए अभ्यावेदन

2248. मौलाना अबेदुल्ला खान आजमी : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री 9 मार्च 1994 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 2532 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों का विस्तृत ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) अन्तिम राजमार्ग को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग कब घोषित किया गया था और उसका नाम क्या है ;

(ग) राजमार्गों को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग घोषित करने के संबंध में विभिन्न राज्यों से प्राप्त अभ्यावेदनों का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) उनके प्रति सरकार का क्या रवैया है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाईटलर) : (क) देश में 77 राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग हैं जिनकी कुल लम्बाई 34,058 कि०मी० है ।

(ख) जनवरी, 1993 में कुरनूल से चित्तूर तक राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग सं० 18 ।

(ग) और (घ) 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में उपर्युक्त के अतिरिक्त, विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों से नए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के लिये लगभग 38,600 कि०मी० कुल लम्बाई के 133 प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं । परन्तु केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र की सड़कों के कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत निर्धारित किए गए बहुत ही कम आबंटन के कारण, इस समय नए राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की घोषणा कर पाना कठिन है ।

Foreign firm's interest in modernitation of Ports

2249. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 7886 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th June, 1994 and state:

(a) whether any foreign firms have shown interest or desired them to be included for modernisation of ports operations; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The foreign firms have shown their interest in the areas of handling of bulk and break bulk cargo, providing container transport (Houlage) depot services, port management and leasing/financing of dredging equipments etc.

Modernisation of Paradeep Port

2250. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ports identified by Government for modernization during the Eighth Plan and funds earmarked therefor;

(b) what progress has been made so far in modernisation of these ports;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to modernize Paradeep Port;

(d) if so, the progress made so far. and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) All the 11 Major Ports in the country have been identified for modernization during 8th Plan. An outlay of Rs. 2984 crores has been allocated for this purpose.

(b) Several major projects aiming at modernisation of major ports namely Container Handling Facilities at Calcutta Port, 7th Cargo Berth at Kandla Port, Second Coal Jetty at Huticorin Port, Balance portion of additional berth a New Mangalore Port and conversion of WJ-1, WJ-2 and WJ-3 Jetties at Visakhapatnam Port into full-fledged berths have since been completed and commissioned during 8th Plan.

(c) to (e) At Paradeep Port a major project namely Construction of a Multipurpose Cargo Berth has already been sanctioned by Government at an estimated cost of Rs. 26.36 crores and is taken up for execution. The work on this project is going on as per schedule and is likely to be completed by August,